

Dear Families,

This week teachers focused on community building in their classrooms. Students learned about their teachers and each other, and we reviewed our school values: to be kind, responsible and hard working. Teachers and staff talked with students about specific actions that reflect these characteristics. One way we can be kind is to use the Buddy Benches on our playground. If a child sits on a Buddy Bench this is an invitation to others to reach out and initiate a game.

While we are focusing on norms for kindness and respect, please note it is necessary to be careful navigating the parking lot during arrival and dismissal. Pedestrians please use the sidewalks where possible. Drivers, please go slowly and remember our students are small and sometimes hard to see.

It was wonderful to see many of you at the PTA Ice Cream Social this week. Next week events include instrument rental night for 3rd and 4th grade families on Monday and Open House on Wednesday. We look forward to seeing you.

Finally, if you have not seen it yet, The Berkshire Record published a thoughtful article about the new mosaic in our front hall of Elisabeth Freeman and made by local artist, Danny O'Dell and students. The Record is a weekly paper and this issue will be available through Wednesday of next week.

Here is our next week at a glance:

MONDAY, September 14

Special Education and Reading Specialist Services Begin

8:00 a.m. Chess Club

12:00 p.m. Magic Club

7:00 p.m. Instrument Rental Night (Third Graders rent instruments to be part of our orchestra program.
Fourth Graders rent for participation in band or orchestra.)

TUESDAY, September 15

Rosh Hashana

8:00 a.m. Unicycle Team

6:30-8:00 p.m. Cub Scouts (Community Room/Café)

WEDNESDAY, September 16

8:00 a.m. Chess Club

5:00-6:30 p.m. Open House (see your child's classroom, meet teachers and learn about our curriculum)

THURSDAY, September 17

7:00 p.m. School Committee – MMRHS

FRIDAY, September 18

PD - ½ day of School (a.m. schedule)

8:00 a.m. Unicycle Team

Mary Berle, Principal

Berkshire Hills Youth Soccer House League Starts Saturday, September 12th!!!



- Sessions will be held on the back fields at Monument Mountain Regional High School.
- Sessions will run from 9:00 am – 10:00 am on Saturday mornings from September 12th – October 31st (There will be no soccer on October 3rd)
- Children in Prekindergarten (4-5 years old) through 4th grade are encouraged to sign up and play!

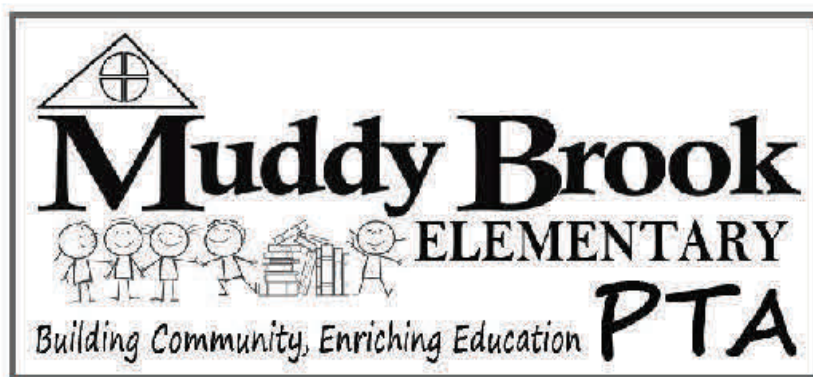
Register your child online at:

<http://www.berkshireyouthsoccer.org/index.php>

If you are unable to sign up online, please arrive at 8:15 on Saturday, September 12th in order register your child with enough time for your child to enjoy the entire first session.

Please Email questions/concerns to Brendan Heck:

Brendan.heck@bhrs.org



Come be a part of the PTA!



SEP. 24
5:30PM
1ST PTA
MEETING

CHILDCARE PROVIDED ♦ MEET THE PTA

We invite you to share your ideas and discover your school community at our low-stress PTA meeting. We will:

Introduce the new officers

Share our values and direction

Hear from our Principal, Mary A. Berle

Hear from you!

Socialize • Chat • Meet • (and have adult time)

COOKIES ♦ CINDER

Kindergarten

Potluck

Oct. 7th 5pm

Need Updates?

Click to

www.muddybrookPTA.com

**or check the
Bulletin Board**

Hangout and Have

Fun at our

**Muddy Brook
Meet-ups**

**Want to help, but
don't know how?**

**Check out our
Volunteer List**

**Share your wishes
and dreams:**

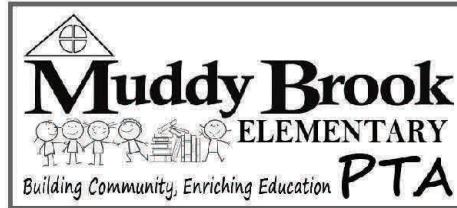
CONTACT US:

Muddy Brook PTA
318 Monument Valley Rd
Great Barrington, MA 01230

www.muddybrookPTA.com

MBE phone: 413 644-2350

**Please
Join**



**The
PTA**

Why Join?

Connect with other families

Become an active part of the Muddy Brook community

Make a concrete difference

Share your passions

Inspire children

Have fun

This year's focus is Connections: to families, to teachers, and to our land and history.



Connect to the Muddy Brook PTA by becoming a member:

- ✓ Visit our website: www.muddybrookPTA.com
- ✓ Click **Join Now!** in the top menu bar.
- ✓ Select payment method. Dues are \$6.
- ✓ Fill out the form.
- ✓ Click Submit
- ✓ If you choose to pay by PayPal, you will be directed to a secure page to finish your payment electronically through PayPal.
- ✓ If you choose to pay by Cash/Check, you will need to send your payment into the school in an envelope marked Muddy Brook PTA.

✓ You are now a member!

Welcome to the Muddy Brook Parent Teacher Association!

Back to School Flash Challenge

Clip Box Tops

Turn Box Tops
Into Your Teacher

Due September 18



Attach those BoxTops you have been collecting all summer to the Collection Sheet on the back of this flyer. The winning classroom will receive a basket full of school supplies.

For more information, contact Heather Boyko, Rewards Coordinator - hsboyko@gmail.com

Float to the top of
your class with Box Tops!



Name _____
Grade _____
Teacher's Name _____

Thank you for helping! Every Box Top you collect is worth 10¢ for your school.
For more collection worksheets and projects, go to www.boxtops4education.com/activitycenter



AFTER SCHOOL MCBA BOOK CLUB

Tuesdays (every other) **Mason Library**

3:45-4:45pm Starts Oct 6

Join the MCBA (Massachusetts Children's Book Award) Book Club for *4th through 6th graders*. We'll discuss the nominee books and do related activities. In Spring children will vote for winner & have a pizza party.

- **Drop in**
- **Children can take the school bus directly to the library or parent drop off**
- **Snack provided**



GREAT BARRINGTON
LIBRARIES
MASON • RAMSDELL
IT'S A GREAT BIG WORLD IN HERE

AFTER SCHOOL KID'S CHESS

Open chess time to meet others who enjoy playing, in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere. There will be no formal instruction, so participants must already have a working knowledge of the game. Chess boards and snacks will be provided.

Good for grades 1-6



For school bus drop off, check with Massini Bus (tel. 229-7962) for elementary bus #8 or middle school bus #10

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LIBRARIES
MASON • RAMSDELL

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3:30 – 5 PM

Tuesdays 2015-16

Oct 13

Oct 27

Nov 10

Nov 24

Dec 8

Jan 5

Jan 19

Feb 2

Mar 1

Mar 15

Mar 29

Apr 12

Apr 26 Tournament

May 3 or 10 Tournament

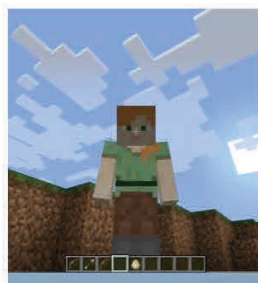


CODING WITH MINECRAFT

SAT OCT 10 1-3PM

FOR AGES 9 & UP REGISTRATION REQUIRED

(LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE)



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LIBRARIES
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IT'S A GREAT BIG WORLD IN HERE

Calling all crafters! Come learn how to summon lightning bolts with a bow and arrow or build giant rainbows in the Minecraft world with code! Spawn farm animals or monsters instantly and have fun "modding" your world! This workshop introduces coding concepts by showing students how to build the game using code. The set-up is easy for beginners, challenging for experienced gamers and fun for everyone!



FAMILY EVENT AT MASON LIBRARY

Friday, October 10, 2015 6:15-8pm

Play Mexican Bingo “Loteria”!

Similar to American Bingo, Lotería Mexicana is a game of chance that uses richly decorated playing cards instead of numbers and bingo balls. Cards are in English and Spanish—suitable for all ages.

The night's winners will win the chance to receive children's prizes and gift certificates to favorite Latino community restaurants.

Dessert Pot Luck!

Bring a dessert and...share a dessert



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EVENTO PARA LA FAMILIA EN LA BIBLIOTECA MASON

Viernes, 23 Octubre, 2015 6:15-8pm

Juega Bingo Mexicano ***“Lotería”!***

Similar al Bingo Americano, Lotería Mexicana es un juego de azar que usa muchas cartas decoradas. Las tarjetas son en ingles y español—bueno para todas las edades.

Adultos ganadores podrán recibir certificados para consumir en algún restaurante Latino del área. Niños y niñas ganadores podrán recibir regalos.

Postre Pot Luck!

Traiga postre para compartir



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**South Berkshire Kids
& CHP Family Network presents**



PARENT WORKSHOP

FREE

**Location: Community Health Programs, Inc. campus
444 Stockbridge Road, Great Barrington**

Workshops held in the community room of the Administrative offices
Pre-registered childcare held in the Family Services building playroom*

Registration is required, 413-464-5095, southberkshirekids@gmail.com

Wednesday, October 7th, 2015

6:30-8:00pm

Scott Noyes presents

“Positive Discipline-That Works!”

Teaching children to behave rather than reinforcing inappropriate choices is the focus of this entertaining session. Eight management techniques will be discussed!

Wednesday, November 18th, 2015

6:00-8:00pm

Bill Corbett presents

“No I Won’t & You Can’t Make Me!”

Handling children’s power struggles with success. Come learn effective strategies for getting children to cooperate and techniques for dealing with tantrums and meltdowns.

***Childcare is available but space is limited & pre-registration
must be confirmed by calling Jessica @ 413-464-5095 or
southberkshirekids@gmail.com**

This series is funded by the Department of Early Education & Care

www.SouthBerkshireKids.org



YOUNG ARTISTS PROGRAM! AT IS183

REGISTER NOW!

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!
REGISTER BY AUGUST 28TH
FOR 10% OFF!

FALL 2015 After-School

kids have

**FUN,
make
ART,
and
Learn
with**

IS183!

art school
of the Berkshires

13 willard hill rd.

p.o. box 1400

stockbridge, ma 01262

(413) 298-5252 ext.100

register at

www.is183.org

Tuesdays, 4pm-5:30pm*

September 29 to November 24 (9 Sessions)

Location: Citizens' Hall, Stockbridge

Member Tuition: \$180 Not Yet Member Tuition: \$205

All Materials are included.

Roll it, Sculpt it, and Glaze it! (ages 5-7)

Paula Shalan

Combine little hands and big imaginations for creative afternoons in the ceramics studio! We'll explore shapes and textures as we construct a box, a mask, a plaque, an animal sculpture- and more. We will introduce world cultures and ancient practices as we create, and finish our work by applying colorful slips and glazes and seeing the results of kiln firing. Class suitable for returning students as well as new-to-clay kids!

Downward-Facing...Artists! (ages 8-10)

Karen Arp-Sandel

Come imagine and explore through art and yoga! In this class we'll start each meeting with yoga movements to find our creative flow, then head to the art studios to explore the wide world of mixed media. We'll learn ways to express our energy and ideas with paint, assemblage, collage, mosaic and more. Our 2D and 3D projects will be super hands-on, open-ended, and let you play with your imagination!

*Early drop-off available. Call us at 413-298-5252 x100 to register.

Please note Berkshire Hills Families: IS183 is on the Muddy Brook Elementary School bus route!



SCOUT OATH

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my
country and to obey the Scout
Law; To help other people at
all times; To keep myself
physically strong, mentally
awake, and morally straight.

CUB SCOUT MOTTO

Do your best.

Cub Scouting Teaches Boys:

- ◆ **CONFIDENCE**, through recognition by adults
- ◆ **BELONGING**, by building relationships with other boys
- ◆ **THE VALUE OF FAMILY**, by fostering quality family time to strengthen the bond between parent and child
- ◆ **SOCIAL SKILLS**, through interacting with other people
- ◆ **MORAL AND ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING**, by instilling essential values
- ◆ **SKILLS**, through hands-on learning
- ◆ **CITIZENSHIP**, by teaching him how to be a responsible community member



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL

1 Arch Road, Suite 5
Westfield, MA 01085

2 South Street, Suite 125
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Phone: 413-594-9196
Fax: 413-562-1041
www.wmascouting.org

Dear Parents:

In today's modern world, childhood seems to fly by for our youth, leaving parents with little time and the difficult decision of how to best influence their child and prepare them for their future. For over 100 years, the proven Scouting programs have helped youth develop **academic skills, physical fitness, self-confidence, ethics, leadership skills, and citizenship skills** that influence their adult lives. In Cub Scouting, boys and their families have fun and adventure in a program that **builds character and instills values**. These values come to boys in all parts of the Cub Scout program - all while your son is having a great time with their friends and your family!

While various activities and youth groups teach basic skills and promote teamwork, Scouting goes beyond that and encourages youth to achieve a deeper appreciation for **service to others in their community and the importance of family**.

Scouting promotes activities that lead to **personal responsibility and high self-esteem**. As a result, when hard decisions have to be made, peer pressure can be resisted and the right choices can be made.

It's time to come and see all that Scouting has to offer for your son's present and future - it is sure to be great **fun for the entire family!**

MY SON IS IN KINDERGARTEN - 5TH GRADE... HOW DO I LEARN MORE OR GET MY SON SIGNED UP IN CUB SCOUTS?

Come to Pack 49's Fall Open House Event Date/time: September 8 (Tuesday) 6:30 PM Location: Muddy Brook Elementary School 318 Monument Valley Rd, Great Barrington MA	OR	Contact: Roland Houle, Cubmaster Phone: 413-274-6301 Email: rhoule5@adelphia.net
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Prefer to join a Cub Scout Pack in Lee or Sheffield?

Pack 3 | First Congregational Church of Lee (25 Park Place, Lee)

Cubmaster: Joshua Hall, 413-464-4277

Pack 28 | American Legion Hall, Post 340 (340 US-7, Sheffield)

Cubmaster: Amy Murray, 413-822-8240

**Membership fees are only \$36 (16-months). Unit-specific dues may apply.
Financial Assistance is available to families in need.**

New Scouts who register in August and
September will receive a free admission pass
for Six Flags New England for either Scout Day
on October 3 or 4, 2015. Join Today!



See all of the Scouting groups that are in your area by visiting www.BeAScout.org



renaissance Arts & Wellness

**'WHERE THE ARTS & WELLNESS
CONVERGE!'**



After School Program

Providing:

School Age/Child Care

Homework Center

Enrichment Activities

M-F, K-12, \$17 per day

School Dismissal - 6pm



Fall Class Offerings

Starting September 12

Classes Offered for Children & Adults in:

Dance, Art, Gymnastics, Photography,

Adult Fitness, Yoga, Creative Writing, Film,

Theatre, Music, Private Lessons and More!

Registration Now Open for All Programs



**Call Today
or
Look Online
for
More
Information**



413-528-9600

gbrenaissanceartscenter.org

420 Stockbridge Rd Great Barrington, MA. 01230



Do you have a child under 5? Are you pregnant or breastfeeding?

WIC OFFERS FAMILIES

- Personalized nutrition consultations
- Free healthy food
- Tips for eating well to improve health
- Referrals for medical and dental care, health insurance, child care, housing and fuel assistance, and other services that can benefit the whole family

Check these guidelines to see if WIC might be right for your family.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	YEARLY	MONTHLY	WEEKLY
1	\$21,775	\$1,815	\$419
2	29,471	2,456	567
3	37,167	3,098	715
4	44,863	3,739	863
5	52,559	4,380	1,011
6	60,255	5,022	1,159
7	67,951	5,663	1,307
8	75,647	6,304	1,455

IF YOU ARE PREGNANT, YOU SHOULD COUNT YOURSELF AS TWO.

Call **1-800-WIC-1007**
or visit **mass.gov/wic**

TDD/TTY: 617-624-5992

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



GOOD FOOD *and* A WHOLE LOT MORE!



¿Tiene un hijo menor de 5 años? ¿Está embarazada o amamantando/lactando?

WIC OFRECE A LAS FAMILIAS

- Alimentos saludables gratis
- Apoyo de lactancia
- Consultas personalizadas de nutrición
- Referidos para atención médica y dental, seguro de salud, cuidado de niños, asistencia para combustible y vivienda, y otros servicios que pueden beneficiar a la familia entera!

Verifique estas pautas para decidir si WIC es el programa adecuado para su familia.

TAMAÑO DE FAMILIA	ANUAL	MENSUAL	SEMANAL
1	\$21,775	\$1,815	\$419
2	29,471	2,456	567
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4	44,863	3,739	863
5	52,559	4,380	1,011
6	60,255	5,022	1,159
7	67,951	5,663	1,307
8	75,647	6,304	1,455

SI USTED ESTÁ EMBARAZADA, DEBE CONTARSE POR 2.

Llame al **1-800-942-1007**
o visite **mass.gov/wic**

TDD/TTY: 617-624-5992

El USDA es un proveedor y empleador que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades.



BUENOS ALIMENTOS y MUCHO MÁS!